



How to make "pan bati"



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House lawmakers push to ban AI app DeepSeek from U.S. government devices

MATT BROWN

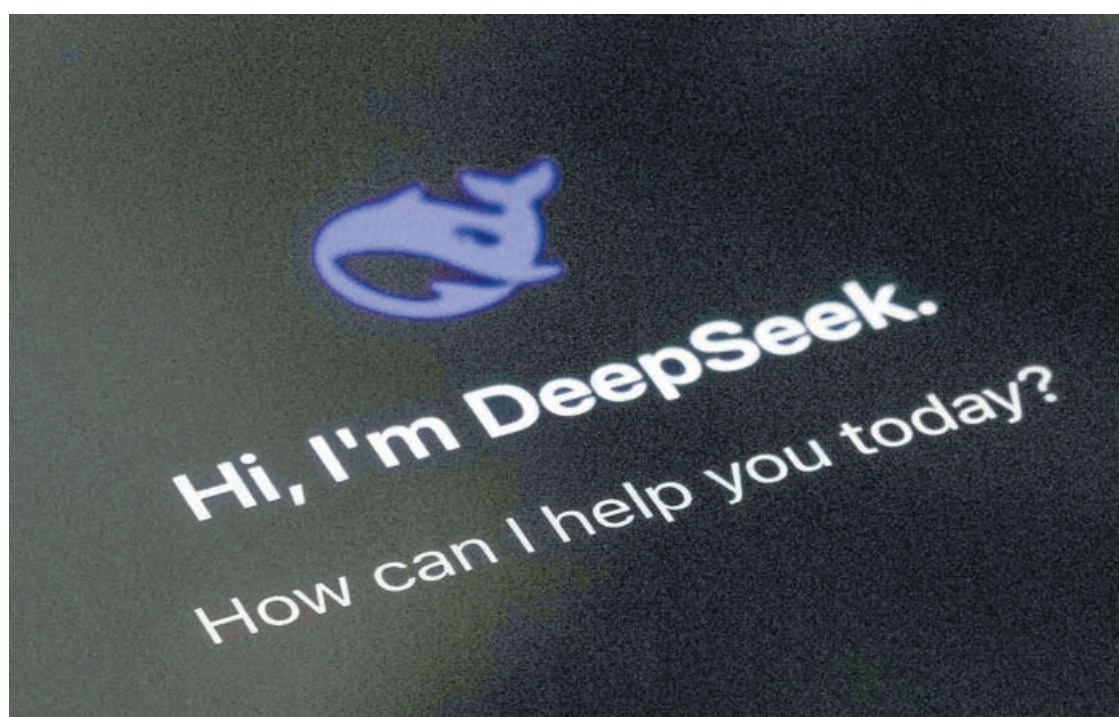
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bipartisan duo in the U.S. House is proposing legislation to ban the Chinese artificial intelligence app DeepSeek from federal devices, similar to the policy already in place for the popular social media platform TikTok.

Reps. Josh Gottheimer, D-N.J., and Darin LaHood, R-Ill., on Thursday introduced the “No DeepSeek on Government Devices Act,” which would ban federal employees from using the Chinese AI app on government-owned electronics. They cited the Chinese government’s ability to use the app for surveillance and misinformation as reasons to keep it away from federal networks.

“The Chinese Communist Party has made it abundantly clear that it will exploit any tool at its disposal to undermine our national security, spew harmful disinformation, and collect data on Americans,” Gottheimer said in a statement. “We simply can’t risk the CCP infiltrating the devices of our government officials and jeopardizing our national security.”

The proposal comes after the Chinese software company in December



The smartphone apps DeepSeek page is seen on a smartphone screen in Beijing, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025.

published an AI model that performed at a competitive level with models developed by American firms like OpenAI, Meta, Alphabet and others. DeepSeek purported to develop the model at a fraction of the cost of its American counterparts. A January research paper about DeepSeek’s capabilities raised alarm bells and prompted debates among policymakers and leading Silicon Valley financiers and technologists.

The churn over AI is coming at a moment of heightened

competition between the U.S. and China in a range of areas, including technological innovation.

The U.S. has levied tariffs on Chinese goods, restricted Chinese tech firms like Huawei from being used in government systems and banned the export of state of the art microchips thought to be needed to develop the highest end AI models.

Last year, Congress and then-President Joe Biden approved a divestment of the popular social media platform TikTok from its Chi-

nese parent company or face a ban across the U.S.; that policy is now on hold. President Donald Trump, who originally proposed a ban of the app in his first term, signed an executive order last month extending a window for a long term solution before the legally required ban takes effect. In 2023, Biden banned TikTok from federal-issued devices.

“The technology race with the Chinese Communist Party is not one the United States can afford to lose,” LaHood said in a state-

ment. “This commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation will ban the app from federal workers’ phones while closing backdoor operations the company seeks to exploit for access. It is critical that Congress safeguard Americans’ data and continue to ensure American leadership in AI.”

The bill would single out DeepSeek and any AI application developed by its parent company, the hedge fund High-Flyer, as subject to the ban. The legislation includes exceptions for national security and research purposes that would allow federal employers to study DeepSeek. Some lawmakers wish to go further.

A bill proposed last week by Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., would bar the import of export of any AI technology from China writ large, citing national security concerns. Several countries have moved to ban DeepSeek’s AI chat bot, either entirely or on government devices, citing security concerns.

Last month, Italy’s data protection authority blocked access to the application in a move it said would protect users’ data and announced an investigation into the companies behind the chatbot. □

Associated Press

IRS workers involved in 2025 tax season can’t take buyout until after the taxpayer filing deadline



Treasury Union Employees president Doreen Greenwald speaks during an interview with The Associated Press, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025 in Washington.

Associated Press

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — IRS employees involved in the 2025 tax season will not be allowed to accept a buyout offer from the Trump administration until after the taxpayer filing deadline, according to a letter sent Wednesday to IRS employees.

The letter says that “critical filing season positions in Taxpayer Services, Information Technology and the Taxpayer Advocate Service are exempt” from the administration’s buyout plan until May 15. Taxpayers have until April 15 to file their taxes unless they are granted an extension.

Union leaders and worker advocates have criticized the proposal and question whether the government will honor any buyout contract.

The news comes after President Donald Trump announced a plan to offer buyouts

to federal employees through a “deferred resignation program” to quickly reduce the government workforce. The program deadline is Feb. 6, and administration officials said employees who accept will be able to stop working while still collecting a paycheck until Sept. 30.

The buyouts, sent to roughly 2.3 million workers, are for all full-time federal employees with some exemptions, including military personnel, employees of the U.S. Postal Service and positions related to immigration enforcement. It’s unclear if IRS workers who accept the buyout would only receive five months of pay instead or if they would also get a full eight months.

The federal government employed more than 3 million people as of November, accounting for nearly 1.9% of the nation’s entire civilian workforce, according to the Pew Research Center. □

A federal judge temporarily blocks Trump's executive order redefining birthright citizenship

By GENE JOHNSON and
MIKE CATALINI
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A federal judge on Thursday temporarily blocked President Donald Trump's executive order denying U.S. citizenship to the children of parents living in the country illegally, calling it "blatantly unconstitutional" during the first hearing in a multi-state effort challenging the order. The 14th Amendment to the Constitution promises citizenship to those born on U.S. soil, a measure ratified in 1868 to ensure citizenship for former slaves after the Civil War.

But in an effort to curb unlawful immigration, Trump issued the executive order just after being sworn in for his second term on Monday. The order would deny citizenship to those born after Feb. 19 whose parents are in the country illegally. It also forbids U.S. agencies from issuing any document or accepting any state document recognizing citizenship for such children.

Trump's order drew immediate legal challenges across the country, with at least five lawsuits being brought by 22 states and a number of immigrants rights groups. A lawsuit brought by Washington, Arizona, Oregon



In this Sept. 16, 2015, photo, a woman in Sullivan City, Texas, who said she entered the country illegally, walks with her daughter who was born in the United States, but was denied a birth certificate.

and Illinois was the first to get a hearing.

"I've been on the bench for over four decades. I can't remember another case where the question presented was as clear as this one is," U.S. District Judge John Coughenour told a Justice Department attorney. "This is a blatantly unconstitutional order."

Thursday's decision prevents the Trump administration from taking steps to implement the executive order for 14 days. In the meantime, the parties will submit

further arguments about the merits of Trump's order.

Coughenour scheduled a hearing on Feb. 6 to decide whether to block it long term as the case proceeds. Coughenour, 84, a Ronald Reagan appointee who was nominated to the federal bench in 1981, grilled the DOJ attorney, Brett Shumate, asking whether Shumate personally believed the order was constitutional. "I have difficulty understanding how a member of the bar could state unequivocally that this is a constitu-

tional order," he added.

Shumate assured the judge he did "absolutely." He said the arguments the Trump administration is making now have never previously been litigated, and that there was no reason to issue a 14-day temporary restraining order when it would expire before the executive order takes effect.

The Department of Justice later said in a statement that it will "vigorously defend" the president's executive order, which it said "correctly interprets the

14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution."

"We look forward to presenting a full merits argument to the Court and to the American people, who are desperate to see our Nation's laws enforced," the department said.

The U.S. is among about 30 countries where birthright citizenship the principle of jus soli or "right of the soil" is applied. Most are in the Americas, and Canada and Mexico are among them.

The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868, in the aftermath of the Civil War, to ensure citizenship for former slaves and free African Americans.

It states: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

Trump's order asserts that the children of noncitizens are not "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States, and therefore not entitled to citizenship.

Arguing for the states on Thursday, Washington assistant attorney general Lane Polozola called that "absurd," noting that neither those who have immigrated illegally nor their children are immune from U.S. law. □

Associated Press

U.S. imposes sanctions on network that helps ship Iranian oil to China

By FATIMA HUSSEIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Department of Treasury on Thursday imposed sanctions on a network of more than a dozen people and firms that are accused of facilitating the shipment of millions of barrels of Iranian oil to China.

The department's Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned more than dozen people and companies in China, India and the United Arab Emirates. The targets include Iranian and Indian citizens, crew management firms and a collection of ships.

"The Iranian regime remains focused on leverag-

ing its oil revenues to fund the development of its nuclear program, to produce its deadly ballistic missiles

and unmanned aerial vehicles, and to support its regional terrorist proxy groups," said Treasury Sec-



Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent appears for an interview with FOX Business Network's Larry Kudlow in the Washington bureau of FOX News, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

retary Scott Bessent in a news release.

During his confirmation hearing, Bessent criticized the Biden administration's sanctions policies and called for the U.S. to have a more "muscular" sanctions regime, including on Iran and Russian entities and oil.

Tammy Bruce, a State Department spokeswoman, said in a Thursday statement that the U.S. "will use all tools at our disposal to hold the regime accountable for its destabilizing activities and pursuit of nuclear weapons that threaten the civilized world."

While signing an executive order on Tuesday mandat-

ing the U.S. government to impose maximum pressure on Tehran, President Donald Trump told reporters that "we will see whether or not we can arrange or work out a deal with Iran." "We don't want to be tough on Iran. We don't want to be tough on anybody," Trump said. "But they just can't have a nuclear bomb." Trump added that he's given his advisers instructions to obliterate Iran if it assassinates him. Iranian officials appeared to signal that they are waiting for a message from Trump on whether he wants to negotiate over Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear program. □

Justice Sotomayor renews her opposition to the court's ruling that ex-presidents have broad immunity

By **BRUCE SCHREINER**

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor said her conservative colleagues are risking the court's legitimacy with decisions affording President Donald Trump broad immunity and overturning longstanding precedents on other issues. In her first public comments since Trump began his second term in the White House, Sotomayor told a Kentucky audience that the court has gone too far, too fast on a range of issues. She cited the Trump case during a lengthy response to a question about sagging public confidence in the court.

Sotomayor issued astinging dissent in that case, and she didn't hold back Wednesday night in discussing public perceptions of the court following its historic 6-3 decision on the immunity question. The court's conservative majority, with three justices appointed by Trump in his first term, ruled for the first time that former presidents have broad immunity from prosecution. "If we as a court go so much further ahead of people, our legitimacy is going to be questioned," Sotomayor said during the



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor greets people as she attends a ceremony during the opening of the Yonkers Public School District's new Justice Sonia Sotomayor Community School on Monday, Sept 16, 2024, in New York.

event in Louisville. "I think the immunity case is one of those situations. I don't think that Americans have accepted that anyone should be above the law in America. Our equality as people was the foundation of our society and of our constitution."

In her dissent last year, which she read aloud in the courtroom, Sotomayor said the court's majority allowed a president to become a "king above the

law" in its ruling that limited the scope of criminal charges against Trump for his role in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol and efforts to overturn the election.

She renewed her objections while discussing the case to the Louisville audience.

"Our constitution itself has provisions not exempting the president from criminal activity after an impeachment," she said. "So I had a

hard time with the immunity case. And if we continue going in directions that the public is going to find hard to understand, we're placing the court at risk."

Earlier in her answer to the question about lagging public confidence in the court, Sotomayor pointed to her conservative colleagues' willingness to upend decades-old precedents.

"I think my court would probably gather more

public support if it went a little more slowly in undoing precedent," Sotomayor said.

Other seismic shifts made by the high court in recent years have included overturning *Roe v. Wade* to end nationwide protections for abortion rights, and striking down affirmative action in college admissions.

Sotomayor said precedent-busting rulings have become more frequent, and she focused on the public fallout from courts going too far too fast.

"I think that creates instability in the society, in people's perception of law and people's perception of whether we're doing things because of legal analysis or because of partisan views," she said. "Whether those views are accurate or not, I don't accuse my colleagues of being partisan." She said they "genuinely have a belief in a certain way of looking at the Constitution."

"And I understand, in good faith, that they think that that belief better promotes our democracy," she said. "But whether that's true or not is irrelevant if people are feeling insecure in the changes that they're instituting at a pace that they can't absorb." □

Associated Press

Boy Scouts see a small membership uptick after rebrand to Scouting America



Roger Krone, chief executive officer of Scouting America, smiles during an interview at the organization's headquarters in Irving, Texas, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

By **JAMIE STENGLE**

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas (AP) — A historic rebrand of the Boy Scouts of America has been followed by a small uptick in young people joining what will now be called Scouting America, a welcoming sign as the organization tries to move past scandal and bankruptcy.

The group will continue leaning into a broad message of inclusivity as it celebrates its 115th birthday Saturday, President and CEO Roger Krone said. He acknowledged some backlash to the rebrand after it was announced last year but described the overall response as a positive one that generated wider interest. "The fact that we were going with a more kind of gender-neutral name, a lot of people kind of wanted to know more about it," Krone said.

Although the overall gain in membership was small about 16,000 new scouts, up less than 2% from the prior year it is still encouraging for the organization after participation plummeted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization, which began allowing girls to join its scouting programs in 2018, has just over 1 million members.

Krone said Cub Scouts, the youngest scouting level, saw an increase of almost 3%. Although the majority of scouts are still boys, over 196,000, girls participated in Scouting America's programs last year. More than 8,000 girls have earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

The name change will officially take effect during the weekend birthday celebration, when sites across the U.S. will be illuminated in red, white and blue, including Niagara Falls and the Empire State Building. □

Future looks dire for U.N. Palestinian refugee agency, says UNRWA chief

By **ABBY SEWELL**
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The head of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees said Thursday that while an Israeli ban has not yet forced the agency to cease operations, it faces an “existential threat” in the long run.

“I have been very clear that despite all the obstacles and the pressure the agency is under, our objective is to stay and deliver until we are prevented to do so,” Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner general of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, also known as UNRWA, said in an interview with The Associated Press during a visit to Beirut.

Israel last week formally banned UNRWA from operating on its territory. As a result, Lazzarini said, international staff have had to leave East Jerusalem because their visas expired, but in Gaza and the West Bank there has been no immediate impact on operations.

Even in East Jerusalem, he said, health care and



Commissioner-General of the U.N. agency for Palestinian Refugees Philippe Lazzarini speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in Beirut, Lebanon, Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025.

Associated Press

other services provided by UNRWA “are continuing, though not necessarily at the same scope it used to be.”

UNRWA is also likely to face increased pressure from the United States under the new Trump administration. U.S. President Donald

Trump in recent days proposed permanently resettling the approximately 2 million Palestinians in Gaza in neighboring Arab countries and suggested the United States taking long-term control of Gaza. Lazzarini called the proposal “totally unrealistic,” add-

ing, “We are talking about forced displacement. Forced displacement is a crime, an international crime. It’s ethnic cleansing.”

Trump announced Tuesday that Washington will not resume funding for UNRWA which had already been

halted since January 2024 when the Biden administration stopped it following accusations by Israel that UNRWA staffers in Gaza took part in the Oct. 7, 2023 Hamas-led attack on southern Israel that sparked the war in Gaza.

Israel had alleged that 19 out of UNRWA’s approximately 13,000 staff in Gaza took part in the attack. UNRWA said it fired nine staffers after an internal U.N. investigation found evidence that they could have been involved.

While several other donor countries also suspended funding at the time, all but the U.S. decided to resume funding.

Lazzarini called the loss of U.S. support “a challenge,” but said the agency is appealing to Gulf Arab countries and other donors to increase their contributions. He described his agency as the target of a “massive disinformation campaign” with a politically motivated objective of dismantling it. □

China’s Xi and Thailand’s leader vow to crack down on scam networks that plague Southeast Asia

By **HUIZHONG WU**
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — China’s leader Xi Jinping and visiting Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra vowed to crack down on the scam networks that plague Southeast Asia as the two leaders met on Thursday in Beijing.

Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos, which are south of China and share borders with Thailand, have become major centers of online scam operations where people lured by false advertising of well-paid jobs are trafficked to secretive compounds where they are forced to work by criminal groups that run online scams targeting people all over the world. That has impacted

Thailand’s reputation, as multiple high-profile stories of Chinese people being lured to work in Bangkok only to be trafficked into a scam compound in Myanmar have surfaced, with Chinese actor Wang Xing being the latest such victim. Thai and Chinese officials have taken public steps to address the scam issue, including a reported visit to the border region by Liu Zhongyi, China’s vice minister of public security.

“China appreciates Thailand’s strong measures to combat online gambling fraud. Both sides should continue to strengthen law enforcement, security, and judicial cooperation,” Xi said, according to state broadcaster CCTV.

Paetongtarn echoed that, saying “Thailand is willing to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with China and other neighboring countries and take resolute and effective measures to combat cross-border crimes such as online gambling and fraud.”

Ahead of her visit, Thailand cut off electricity to some areas in Myanmar by its border to try to disrupt the operations of the scam compounds. The effect of that is unclear as the compounds often have their own generators.

The visit to China was Paetongtarn’s first as prime minister and comes as the two countries celebrate 50 years of establishing diplomatic relations.

On other bilateral issues,

Xi said China was willing to work on a new railway project between the countries. On Tuesday, Thailand approved a \$10 billion railway project that will eventually connect Bangkok to

the Laos-China high speed railway. He also said they hoped to deepen cooperation in electric vehicles, with Thailand being an emerging market for Chinese automakers. □



In this photo released by the Thailand’s Government Spokesman Office, Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, shakes hands with Thailand’s Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra in Beijing, China, Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025.

Associated Press

Greek rights groups call for criminal charges over deadly 2023 migrant shipwreck

By ELENA BECATOROS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Rights groups are demanding criminal charges be brought against members of Greece's coast guard over a deadly 2023 migrant shipwreck, after the country's ombudsman released a report noting "clear indications" that officers had overlooked the danger posed by the boat that sank.

The *Adriana*, a massively overcrowded fishing trawler, had been heading from Libya to Italy with an estimated 500-750 people on board when it sank in international waters west of Pylos in western Greece in June 2023. Only 104 people survived, while 82 bodies were recovered. The rest went down with the trawler in one of the deepest parts of the Mediterranean.

An independent investigation by Greece's ombudsman into the shipwreck concluded this week that there were "clear indications" that eight senior coast guard officers should



Survivors and other members of the Pakistani community in Greece hold a banner with pictures of victims of one of the worst migrant boat tragedies during a protest by the Movement United Against Racism and the Fascist Threat, or KEERFA, outside the naval court in Piraeus, near Athens, on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025.

face disciplinary action for overlooking the dangers posed by the trawler.

The coast guard, which had been notified about the boat by Italian authorities, had been shadowing the vessel for hours as it sailed

in international waters but within Greece's area of responsibility for search and rescue.

At the time, the coast guard said the *Adriana*'s captain had insisted he did not want assistance and

wanted to continue sailing to Italy. But several survivors said passengers had been calling for help repeatedly, and said that the boat capsized during an attempt by the Greek coast guard to tow it.

Associated Press

The ombudsman said Monday its report noted "a series of serious and reproachable omissions in the search and rescue duties by senior officers of the Hellenic Coast Guard which constitute clear indications" for establishing a case against the officers for endangering the lives of the *Adriana*'s passengers.

The independent body began its own investigation in November 2023 after "the direct refusal of a disciplinary investigation by the Coast Guard," it said.

The Shipping and Island Policy Ministry, under whose jurisdiction the coast guard lies, rejected the ombudsman's report, accusing it of "attempting to shift the conversation from the criminal smuggling networks to the members of the coast guard, who fight day and night for the protection of the country."

It accused the report of frequently favoring versions of events that called into question the coast guard's actions "without the slightest credible evidence." □

Mexico deploys the first of 10,000 National Guard troops to U.S. border after Trump's tariff threat

By MEGAN JANETSKY

Associated Press

CIUDAD JUÁREZ, Mexico

(AP) — A line of Mexican National Guard and Army trucks rumbled along the border separating Ciudad Juárez and El Paso, Texas, on Wednesday, among the first of 10,000 troops Mexico has sent to its northern frontier following tariff threats by President Donald Trump. Masked and armed National Guard members picked through brush running along the border barrier on the outskirts of Ciudad Juárez, pulling out makeshift ladders and ropes tucked away in the trenches, and pulling them onto trucks. Patrols were also seen on other parts of the border near Tijuana.

It comes after a turbulent week along the border after Trump announced

he would delay imposing crippling tariffs on Mexico for at least a month. In exchange, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum promised she would send the country's National Guard to reinforce the border and crack down on fentanyl smuggling.

Trump has declared an emergency on the border despite migration levels and fentanyl overdoses significantly dipping over the past year. The U.S. said it would, in turn, do more to stop American guns from being trafficked into Mexico to fuel cartel violence,

which has rippled to other parts of the country as criminal groups fight to control the lucrative migrant smuggling industry.

On Tuesday, the first of those forces arrived in border cities, climbing out of government planes. Guard members in the Wednesday patrol confirmed that they were part of the new force.

"There will be permanent surveillance on the border," José Luis Santos Iza, one of the National Guard leaders heading off the deployment in the city, told media upon the arrival of the first set of soldiers. "This operation is primarily to prevent drug trafficking from Mexico to the United States, mainly fentanyl."

At least 1,650 troops were expected to be sent to Ciudad Juárez, according to

government figures, making it one of the biggest receivers of border reinforcements in the country, second only to Tijuana, where 1,949 are slated to be sent. During U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio's trip through Latin America where migration was at the top of the agenda the top American diplomat thanked the Mexican government for the forces, according to a statement by the Mexican government. The negotiation by Sheinbaum was viewed by observers as a bit of shrewd political maneuvering by the newly elected Mexican leader. Many had previously cast doubt that she'd be able to navigate Trump's presidency as effectively as her predecessor and ally, former President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. □



Mexican National Guard members patrol along the Mexico-US border in Ciudad Juarez, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

Be aware of fake scams online

(Oranjestad)—As Aruba Today has mentioned a few days ago, there has been fake headlines going around on Facebook that includes the Aruba Today logo. Since then, more of these fraudulent posts have popped up.

We once again advise our reader not to engage or click on any of these posts, and please report them to us, preferably with a screenshot of the post or link. Aruba Today will continue to investigate the emergence of this scam.

The stories of “Compa Nanzi”

(Oranjestad)—The most popular character you may hear about in the Caribbean is Anansi, known locally on Aruba as “Compa Nanzi”. Local children grew up hearing the tales of the conniving spider, and his legacy forms part of the oral narrative tradition that is common in Aruba.

Although the stories are most popular in the Caribbean, “Compa Nanzi” is not entirely unknown globally, especially not in the West African region. Brought to the “new world” by enslaved Africans from Ghana, the historical thread of how Nanzi was introduced on Aruba follows the enslaved Africans in Curacao during the colonial era, which saw the biggest population of enslaved Africans in the Dutch Caribbean.

The stories of Compa Nanzi were a sign of hope for freedom among the slaves, who passed around different stories involving the famous spider through word of mouth, due to not being able to express their native culture in the new world. These stories were a way to not only preserve their cul-

ture, but it acted as a medium for relief during the harsh treatment to which they were subjected to.

It wasn't until the end of the nineteenth century that the stories of Nanzi were written down in different languages. However, not all stories are completely alike in every country, as is the risk of oral story telling. However, one thing will always be dominant in Compa Nanzi's stories: his sneaky ways to get what he wants!

How Nanzi fooled the king
One day Nanzi was taking a stroll near the castle of Shon Arei, the king. He had this sudden urge to walk in. He didn't think too much about it and committed to what he had in mind. It was a warm afternoon, and the castle personnel were taking their afternoon nap. Even the soldier guarding the castle door was fast asleep, snoring so loud that his beard bounced up and down on his chin. Nanzi just slipped past him, looked back for a moment then walk right on in.

Nanzi stumbled upon the king's quarters. With all his excitement he sat in the king's throne, and put on his crown that was hanging

on the side of the throne. It was very hot that day, and it wasn't long until Nanzi too fell asleep, right there on the king's throne. He was so deep in sleep and snoring so loud, that even when the king found him in his seat, Nanzi did not even notice.

Shon Arei was flabbergasted by the sight of Nanzi on his throne, wearing his crown. How disrespectful! “Soldiers, get him!” he commanded. Nanzi was sound asleep, but when the soldiers picked him up, he jumped from fright. By then though, the soldier already had him in their hold. “Put him in a sack, stitch it up and throw him in the ocean!” the king said furiously. Two soldiers immediately entered the chamber, took the crown off Nanzi's head and pushed him in a sack.

Nanzi was terrified; it looks like this time he won't get away with his schemes. To get to the ocean, the soldier walked a long distance, and where beginning to feel very thirsty. Luckily they passed by a pub, and decided to have a nice cold beer. They set the sack with Nanzi in it outside and went to enjoy the refreshments. Nanzi was still trembling with fear in the sack.

What is that he hears? A herd of sheep walking by? “Compadre, listen here!” Nanzi screamed as loud as he could. The sheep herder got close to the sack. “What is this?”

“Man, there is something very beautiful in here that you can see. It's very rare and strange, but indeed, there is something so beautiful in here that you've never seen or will ever see,” Nanzi told the herder.

The herder, very dumb, believed Nanzi's word. “Let me see!” he said.

“Well if you must insist,” Nanzi said, “I'll let you



take a look, but only for a quick second.” The herder opened the sack, and Nanzi immediately jumped out. Before the herder could even take a look into the sack, Nanzi pushed him in it, and the herder fell head first in.

Nanzi didn't waste any time, and closed off the sack real tight. He then picked up the herder's hat and started walking behind the traveling sheep as if nothing happened. After a little while, the soldiers headed back outside to continue their journey. As they picked up the sack, the poor herder started screaming to let him out, but the soldiers ignored him, thinking it was Nanzi. Shon Arei went strolling a while later. He thought to himself: “This time Nanzi could not get away with his foolishness. He probably drowned in that sack ages ago.” That is why, when he saw Nanzi walk behind the herd of sheep on the street, he was flabbergasted again. “Nanzi! Aren't you suppose to be at the bottom of the ocean floor?”

“I was, Your Majesty,” Nanzi

replied. But you know what, there is so many things to see down there in the sack! Like this herd of sheep. Seeing that they had no herder, I started walking behind them and gained their trust pretty quickly. At the bottom of the ocean there are so many wonderful things, like diamonds, and bags of gold. Chests of silver and other precious stones,” Nanzi told the king.

“What is that you say?” the king was intrigued. “I want to see it too!”

The king immediately demanded to his soldiers to be put in a sack and be placed in the ocean. Naturally, Shon Arei died because of this. He was never found again. Nanzi followed the soldier back to the castle, where sat once again on the late king's thrown and put his crown on. He took possession of all of Shon Arei's belongings, and lived the rest of his life as king. □

Story and pictures are from “Kon Nanzi a Nék Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)” by Nilda Pinto.



Rediscover Sunset Grille, a beloved island favorite, now open after a complete transformation



Palm Beach – The wait is over! Sunset Grille has recently reopened after extensive renovation. The restaurant balances classic moves with contemporary taste and fresh perspective. It has a distinguished ambiance, and unforgettable moments for both locals and guests.

Located within the iconic Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino, this timeless steakhouse has been an island favorite for more than 60 years, evolving into the all new Sunset Grille in conjunction with the resort's overall enhancements. These updates included the rejuvenation of

the Sunset Bar, and the revitalization of Sunset Grille. The restaurant proudly presents its refreshed concept, featuring elegantly decorated, air-conditioned indoor dining, along with an intimate private dining space for up to 10 guests. For those who prefer dining al fresco, the wraparound terrace provides breathtaking views of Palm Beach and the resort grounds—an idyllic setting to take in Aruba's iconic sunsets.

The restaurant offers prime cuts of meat, fresh seafood, shareable plates, and signature specialties crafted with

classic sophistication. Diners will be pleased to find global flavors on the menu, blending culinary influences from the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. Meals are complemented by handcrafted cocktails and a carefully curated wine list showcasing over 300 bottles from renowned regions around the world. A unique feature, the new gin trolley, allows guests to enjoy a refreshing and immersive cocktail experience, highlighting the delightful Dutch spirit alongside a selection of botanicals for both traditional and modern creations.

The renowned Sunset Grille kitchen and dining room teams create an exceptional dining experience, combining exquisite cuisine with caring, attentive service. Guests are welcome seven days a week to discover why Sunset Grille has been an island favorite for so long. Come for the view, stay for the flavors, and leave with memories that last a lifetime. Sunset Grille is open daily from 5:30 pm – 10:30 pm. For reserva-



tions, please contact 526-6612. □

Visit the natural bridges of Aruba!



(Oranjestad)—After you've visited the Alto Vista Church, the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and the mini natural pool that is located right next to it, you're next up around the northern coast line must be the Natural Bridge. Once the largest natural bridge in the Caribbean, this bridge has been a tourist attraction for many years.

The bridge was formed during thousands of years, cut and crafted by the wild waves that crash into the coral stone walls of the coast. Before its collapse, this bridge measured 30 meters in length and 7 meters in height, making it the biggest natural bridge in the Caribbean at the time. For many years, this site was also a frequently visited beach, as the bridge had a small opening through which the water would flow into the tiny beach.

Unfortunately in 2005, the bridge collapsed, and the little beach dried up. Despite this, this site remained a tourist attraction, with many visitors walking along the coral cliffs of the bridge to see the spectacular view of the northern coastline and the Caribbean Sea. Visitors can also still visit the souvenir shop on the left of the bridge entrance.

While the natural bridge no longer is functional, there is now a smaller natural bridge very close. This bridge is often called the "Baby Bridge" or "Daughter Bridge". □

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Aruba: Best Caribbean Island to Buy Real Estate



Overview

The Caribbean real estate market is witnessing an unprecedented boom, driven by its proximity to the US, Canada, and Europe, its laid-back lifestyle, and year-round sunshine. Whether you're considering a permanent relocation, seeking a holiday retreat, or eyeing a lucrative investment opportunity, there's an island in the Caribbean that perfectly suits your needs. However, choosing the best Caribbean island to buy real estate requires a deep dive and a thorough understanding of the markets.

Stability and growth are key when discussing Caribbean real estate. The region has consistently demonstrated resilience and upward property value trends, making it an attractive place for investment. Caribbean real estate offers not only a peaceful retreat but also the potential for significant appreciation and rental income.

It makes sense to consider investing in real estate with bond interest rates declining and the stock market at a historic high. Aruba real estate shows great promise when analyzed individually, due to its location outside the hurricane belt, its established infrastructure, and its international

reputation as a high-end destination. We particularly favor prime locations, especially those with views of the Caribbean Sea.

Aruba meets all the criteria for investing in Caribbean real estate

1. Potential for Price Appreciation

Aruba's real estate is poised for significant growth, as its prices remain well below other comparable islands like the Bahamas, Barbados, Turks & Caicos, St. Martin, St. Kitts & Nevis, or Puerto Rico, and even South Florida.

There is a moratorium on new condominium developments and hotels, as the government is prioritizing environmental protection overgrowth and closely monitoring the island's carrying capacity. Aruba is aiming for quality over quantity, focusing on higher-income tourists. However, demand for oceanfront condos continues to rise. The potential for price appreciation is clear, with supply being constrained and demand high.

2. Flight Accessibility and Location

Aruba offers over 16 daily flights to and from the US and Canada, reaching 28 direct destinations, including Europe and Latin America. Plus, it offers the convenience of clearing US immigration before boarding return flights.

3. Economic and Political Stability

As part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Aruba benefits from a sound legal system and adherence to the rule of law.

4. Banking and Financing

Banking and financing processes for foreign investors are streamlined, with attractive mortgage



loan rates available.

5. Safety and Security

An island's security measures and overall safety record can significantly affect real estate values. Aruba ranks No. 1 in this regard.

6. No Currency nor Capital Restrictions

The US dollar is widely used in Aruba, simplifying transactions for international investors. There's no need to worry about fluctuating exchange rates, as the Aruban Florin is pegged to the dollar, and there are no capital restrictions. You can forecast expenses and returns without the unpredictability of currency fluctuations.

7. Established Caribbean Markets

Exploring established Caribbean real estate markets is a wise starting point when diving into Caribbean real estate investing. These markets offer a mix of stability and luxury that attracts a steady flow of investors and tourists alike.

Don't miss out. The time to invest in Aruban real estate is now! □



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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Eli, Tomy, Agus and Cata.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba for us means relax, fun,

great and friendly people and the amazing chance to connect between us, as a family and with friends. For the second time, we spent beautiful days with our friends Mechi, Lelu, Benja and Sofi. We love Aruba, always looking forward to come back and visit...we are close to achieve our 20st visit..."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)--If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the re-



finery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually hap-

pened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the

area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog

The Lionfish And its threat to our marine wild life

(Oranjestad)—Despite its colorful and striking appearance, the lionfish has become a Caribbean-wide problem for Atlantic sea life. The Aruban marine wild life is also affected by this beautiful dilemma, as it is foreign to our waters and has become a danger to our local fish and reefs.

Originating from the Indo-Pacific Ocean, the lionfish is a relatively small fish. It has no teeth, but it does protect itself against predators using its sharp, colorful spikes. It is

said that the sting of a lionfish can be up to 100 times more painful than that of a bee's sting.

Its natural predators in the Indo-Pacific are sharks and barracudas, but in the Caribbean Sea, local fish do not recognize the lionfish as part of their diet. In other words, the lionfish has no predators in the Caribbean Sea. And this becomes a major problem for our local marine life; if there are no predators to stimulate population control of lionfish, these fish can

continue to reproduce and expand to other parts of the Atlantic, become more invasive and dangerous for other types of fish.

For Aruba, the lionfish is a problem especially for our local coral reefs. According to Patrick van Brakel, lionfish expert and hunter from the Hunting Lionfish Aruba foundation, every reef has a "cleaning station"—tiny fish that eat algae and other types of waste on a reef, thus maintaining the reef's health and providing food to the fish population in the area. However, as the lionfish feeds off of these tiny fish, it becomes harder for the coral reef to maintain its health.

Patrick also shares the origins of lionfish in the Caribbean Sea. It is theorized that the introduction of these fish in the Atlantic happened in Florida, where people would buy lionfish from across the world to keep in their aquariums. However, lionfish grow, and as these buyers realized that the fish were too much up-



keep, they were let out into the ocean to roam free. From continental USA, the lionfish travelled to and invaded the entire Caribbean area, from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao up to New York. In Aruba, lionfish were discovered in 2009.

Controlling the lionfish population is challenge, as each female fish can lay up to 40,000 eggs a day. Luckily, we have people like van Brakel who dedicate their lives hunting and capturing these invasive species, using them for consumption and

jewelry making.

They are caught with a hand spear, an object resembling a garbage picker with 4 sharp prongs. These spears are used like a sling shot to catch lionfish from a distance. These fish are then put into a collecting tube and taken out of the water. Van Brakel not only catches them himself, but also cooks them for locals and tourists at The LionFish Snack Aruba in Paradera. This way, he does his part in protecting the local wild life. □



Dining in? Try making a local favorite

How to make “pan bati”

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Ingredients:

2 cups of all purpose flour
1 cup grams of fine cornmeal (we recommend the Harina PAN brand)
2 tbsp baking powder
1 1/3 cup of milk
1 pinch of salt
2 tbsp of granulated sugar
Oil for cooking

Instructions:

Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more moisture is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency.

In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.

Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top! □



Meet Aruba's biggest hero

Boy Ecury



(Oranjestad)—This past May 4th, Aruba as well as The Netherlands commemorated those who sadly perished during the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the front-line during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto “Boy” Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Nether-

lands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam first-hand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion groups that he



would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active

as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lannoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.

Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the “Oranjestad” prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: “I will die with a smile on my face.”

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He

was only 22 years old.

Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.

Boy's life motto was this: “In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor.” □

Source: “De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)” by Evert Bongers.



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

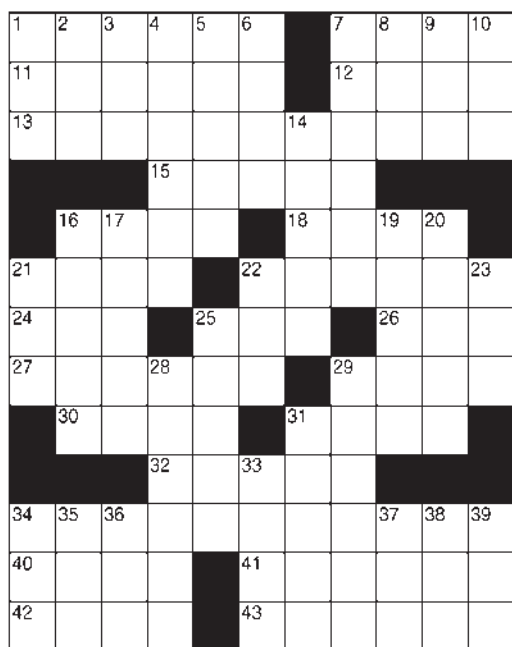
ACROSS 43 Do over

- 1 Human ancestor
- 7 Latte topper
- 11 Gomez of "Only Murders in the Building"
- 12 Bumpkin
- 13 Workplace motto
- 15 Inventor Nikola
- 16 Olympus leader
- 18 Vaccine type
- 21 Easy win
- 22 Got a C, say
- 24 Company abbr.
- 25 Yoga need
- 26 Sedan or SUV
- 27 Cheated at hide-and-seek
- 29 Office leader
- 30 Glade grazer
- 31 Smoker's discard
- 32 Cap feature
- 34 Sturdily made
- 40 Cuzco native
- 41 Flowering shrub
- 42 South African farmer

DOWN

- 1 Donkey
- 2 Stew sphere
- 3 North Pole worker
- 4 Get together
- 5 Pays to play
- 6 Opposing votes
- 7 Some brothers
- 8 Owned by us
- 9 Crunch targets
- 10 Ran into
- 14 Parade sight
- 16 Like urban areas
- 17 Game show host
- 19 Fancy neck-wear
- 20 Minimum amount
- 21 Tear protector
- 22 Knee protector
- 23 Hosp. workers
- 25 Deserve
- 28 Vest material
- 29 Coarse fabric
- 31 Hooch
- 33 Sirius or Polaris
- 34 Shirt protector
- 35 First numero
- 36 Cubes in a glass
- 37 Pub stuff
- 38 Neptune's domain
- 39 Skin art, for short

S O F A S G A S P S
A L I E N E X P E L
T E R R A N E A T O
O G R E N E W
C L A S S I S M
H A R M D I E S E L
A T E I T S T O V E
D E A T H S A M E N
H E E D L E S S
S A P C A R L
P L A Z A A I S L E
U T T E R I C I E R
D O S E S N A D E R



2-6

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

2-6

CRYPTOQUOTE

Y B B G A W T I X P R B P Z U P A K

D W U P I J D S B K T M K S C M B

— P M J K S P J W U K U C Z Z X P Z Z

H B S C M J A W T . — U P Z D

U S C D L P M

Cryptoquote: LET YOURSELF BE DRAWN BY THE STRONGER PULL OF THAT WHICH YOU TRULY LOVE. — RUMI

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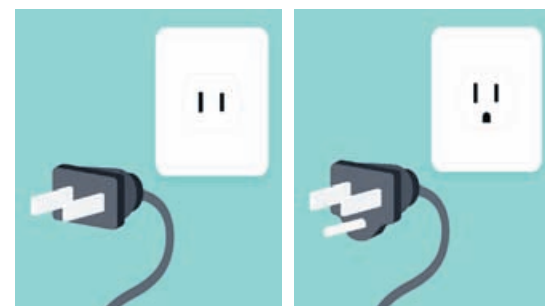
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
SAT	01	AIDAPERLA CARNIVAL MIRACLE EXPLORER OF THE SEAS STAR PRIDE	09.00 08.00 16.30 06.00	22.00 22.00 **** 16.00	B C I G	1 1 1 1
SUN	02	EXPLORER OF THE SEAS - dept.	****	18.00	I	-
MON	03	OCEANIA SIRENA RESILIENT LADY	07.00 09.00	18.00 23.00	B C	1 1
TUE	04	CELEBRITY ECLIPSE CARNIVAL HORIZON NORWEGIAN VIVA	08.00 09.00 13.00	18.00 23.00 21.00	B C I	1 1 1
WED	05	AIDABELLA CELEBRITY REFLECTION SEABOURN OVATION	10.00 10.30 07.00	22.00 21.00 19.00	B C I	1 1 1
THU	06	ROTTERDAM AIDAMAR	08.00 10.00	23.00 20.00	B C	1 1
FRI	07	MARELLA EXPLORER 2 EMERALD PRINCESS	08.00 09.00	20.00 22.00	B C	1 1
SAT	08	NORWEGIAN JEWEL CORAL PRINCESS	07.00 09.00	20.00 18.00	B C	1 1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



3 steps to uncovering your true financial goals

Samantha Lamas and Ryan Murphy of Morningstar

What are your top financial goals?

If your goals are hard to pin down, or seem to drift, you're not alone.

Research suggests that, even when considering important goals, people tend to answer with whatever is top-of-mind, which may not always reflect their true, long-term goals.

It can be helpful to implement ready-made processes that help us be less of a stranger to ourselves and better understand our deeper motivations, rather than fixate on top-of-mind recollections.

3 key steps to better goals

We've used our research to inform a three-step process that can help investors more strategically identify their financial goals. This process forces investors to slow down and consider the topic holistically.

In practice, it provides the space and structure that people benefit from as they think deeply about what they want to do over the long term with their hard-earned resources. Here's what the steps look like.

Step 1: Slow down

First, take out a notepad and write down your top three investing goals.

Think of this as a brainstorming session, which can be useful to get things rolling.



This Oct. 24, 2016 file photo shows dollar bills in New York.
Associated Press

But remember that it's just the first step, and anything written here should be considered "written in pencil."

Step 2: Use a process

Next, set the notepad aside and review an established list of common investing goals. Consider each alternative, and mark off the goals on the list that are important to you. As you go along, cross out goals that don't resonate with you.

There's nothing magical about this master list. The benefit is that it gives people a different perspective on what they might be motivated by, and moreover the opportunity to just evaluate options, rather than having to generate ideas and evaluate them at the same time. Doing two things at the same time is hard (think about trying to drive and read a text mes-

sage simultaneously).

Step 3: Think carefully

Now, taking both your initial list from the notepad and the marked-up list of common goals into consideration, think about your top three investing goals. Write them down on a new piece of paper. Has your list of top goals changed since Step 1? If so, how?

A simple but effective approach: Build a master list. If your goals changed, you're not alone. In our research, we found about 70% of people changed at least one of their top three goals after going through this simple three-step process.

After considering the master checklist, some people who initially thought of their goals in broad, vague terms began to formulate ideas that were more spe-

cific and vivid. The master list also helped many respondents shift from initial goals that focused solely on financial outcomes (which tend to be impersonal and potentially unmotivating) to reframe their goals in terms of their emotional and personal values. This process helped them better understand their why (not just their what).

To wrap up

Next time you are faced with the big, scary question of financial planning "What are your overarching, 30-year, long-term financial goals?" try using the steps above to aid your decision-making and break the problem down into manageable steps.

It can help you make sure that you find your true goals, and not just things that are top of mind. This helps investors be less of a stranger to themselves and to identify their why as they move toward where they want to go. □



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A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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One Tech Tip: How to block your phone from tracking your location

By **KELVIN CHAN**
AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — Smart-phones are useful tools for everyday life, but they're privy to nearly everything about you, including all the places you've been if you let them.

When you use a map app to find the new restaurant your friend recommended, or your phone's browser to check the price of something you saw while window shopping, you could be unwittingly allowing your phone to track your location and share that information with others.

Phones use various signals to find your location, including cell tower pings, Wi-Fi access points, Bluetooth and GPS.

Sometimes your phone needs to know your location to provide a useful service, like telling the Uber driver where to pick you up. But in other cases, there's little justification for tracking your whereabouts, which then can be exploited by apps, ad services or even hackers.

"From fitness tracking to navigation, every location ping potentially reveals details about our routines and movements — which could be risky in the wrong hands," said Darren Gucione, CEO of Keeper Security. "Users should turn on location tracking only when necessary, such as during navigation, emergencies or sharing updates with trusted contacts, and disable it immediately afterward."

Experts warn location data could be used to track people who visit abortion clinics. Or "a disgruntled ex could use location sharing to stalk someone, or a current, abusive partner could force you into location sharing as a means of control," said David Ruiz, senior privacy advocate at cybersecurity company Malwarebytes.

Here are some tips to make sure location tracking is kept to a minimum:

App permissions

Head to your phone's con-



A person holds an iPhone 15 Pro at the Apple campus, Sept. 12, 2023, in Cupertino, Calif.

Associated Press

trol panel to check permissions.

iPhone users can go to the Privacy & Security tab, and then to Location Services to check settings for individual apps. It's not a good idea to let apps always use your location in the background, according to cybersecurity experts. Instead, get the app to either ask first before using your location, use it only while you've got the app open, or even never let it use your location.

While you're in Location Services, you might notice little arrows that indicate which apps have used your location. Purple means recently, while grey indicates the past 24 hours.

It's a little different for Android phones because there are so many different versions by various device manufacturers. In general, go to settings, and then tap the Location icon, which lets you turn it on or off for all apps.

To tweak settings for individual apps, tap App location permissions, where you'll get choices similar to those in iOS.

iPhone privacy

Apple has other tools to cut down on third-party tracking that might include location information. On the iPhone's Privacy & Security

setting, under the Tracking tab, there's a toggle to Allow Apps to Request to Track. With this switched off, any new app requests will be automatically denied and they will also be stopped from accessing your phone's ad identifier.

Advertising ID

Privacy experts recommend blocking your Google or Apple device's in-house ad identifier, which enables third-party tracking on most devices for better ad targeting.

On iPhones, go to the Privacy setting then scroll down to Apple Advertising, and then switch off Personalized Ads. On newer Android phones, go to the Privacy setting, then to Ads, where you can tap Delete Advertising ID.

Pinpoint or general

Whether you use Android or iOS, they both have settings to allow precisely pinpointing your location by combining wireless signals with data from onboard sensors such as the gyroscope, accelerometer and barometer. This helps to estimate the phone's position if, for example, you're inside a building blocking a GPS signal.

One reason to use this function is to show someone you're meeting exactly where you are. Google

says its signals are randomized so they can't be associated with a specific person or account.

In any case, you might not want every app to know this, so you can tell your phone to only share its general location.

On Android phones, turn off the Location Accuracy setting for all apps. On iPhones, switch it on or off for individual apps.

Your Google account

Along with app permissions for your device, it's also a good idea to check your Google account. Google was forced to be more transparent about its location tracking practices after a 2018 Associated Press story that found the company continued to track people's location data even after they opted out of such tracking by disabling a feature the company called "location history."

Go to myaccount.google.com and then to the Data & Privacy section, where you'll find the Location History controls.

Under recent changes, the history will be deleted after three months, though you can change that default setting.

Browsers

Popular smartphone web browsers like Safari or

Chrome could give away your location, so try using one that doesn't store information about you, like DuckDuckGo, Firefox Focus or Ecosia.

If a privacy-focused browser needs to access your location through your IP address, they will ask first. It will also let you easily delete your cookies and other web browsing data.

Find my device

Phones or tablets can also be tracked with Apple's Find My or Google's Find My Device features for recovering lost devices. You can turn this feature off if you think someone has gained access to your Apple or Google account.

Block the signal

Some cybersecurity websites recommend using airplane mode, but it doesn't always shut off all signals so you shouldn't rely on it.

A signal-blocking Faraday pouch would be a better bet, but be sure to test it to make sure it's actually jamming all signals. And, keep in mind, you'll need to take the device out of the bag to use it.

Tradeoffs

There are so many possible ways for smartphones and other devices like smartwatches to track our location that it's hard to provide an exhaustive checklist.

Our default relationship with apps, companies, and platforms is for them to track us, "which absolutely makes it harder for us to scrutinize all the channels through which our data is being sent," said Ruiz.

"The unfortunate truth is that, to shut everything down, we have to go into our device settings and check each app, line by line, and make individual decisions for how those apps collect our location data," said Ruiz.

"It's either that, or turn off all location data entirely," which could result in inconveniences like having to manually enter your address on ride-hailing apps, or not getting live directions from mapping apps, he said. □

Jimmy Butler is headed to the Golden State Warriors, Andrew Wiggins to Miami Heat, AP source says

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Jimmy Butler got what he wanted. He's being traded out of Miami and got a new contract in the process. The Heat and the Golden State Warriors have agreed on a deal that sends Butler to the Bay Area, a person with knowledge of the talks said Wednesday. Butler helped carry the Heat to the NBA Finals twice, long before a hostile breakup that saw him suspended three times by the team in January.

Golden State is making it happen by moving Andrew Wiggins, Dennis Schroder, Kyle Anderson, Lindy Waters and first-round draft compensation out in the deal, said the person, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade has not gotten league approval.

Wiggins and Anderson are headed to Miami; it's unclear if Anderson will be staying with the Heat. Schroder is getting moved to Utah where the Warriors, coincidentally, were Wednesday night and Josh Richardson is heading from Miami to Detroit along with Waters. Also on the move: P.J. Tucker, who was just



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler stands on the court during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the San Antonio Spurs, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, in Miami.

Associated Press

traded to Utah and briefly was set to return to Miami, where he played in 2021-22. As the trade continued evolving Thursday, Tucker was being moved to Toronto and Davion Mitchell was headed to the Heat. It took a lot, but Butler got his wish. "My brother, man. I'm going to miss him, for sure," said Heat forward Nikola Jovic, who looked up to Butler. "I think a lot of guys here will. He's someone who did a lot for this franchise." The Heat will get a protected first-rounder from

Golden State; for now, that is a pick in this year's draft though that could change based on final terms. And ESPN reported that Butler has already agreed on a two-year extension with the Warriors, one that would be worth around \$113 million. "I'm really happy that he got what he wanted," Jovic said. "That bag's kinda really big." Mark down March 25: Golden State at Miami, the first time Butler could play again in South Florida. Golden State becomes

Butler's fifth team, after stints in Chicago, Minnesota, Philadelphia and Miami. His arrivals were celebrated in all four cities, and his departures weren't exactly smooth in any of them. With the Warriors, he joins Stephen Curry and Draymond Green two players who were part of all four recent Golden State championship teams and have hopes of getting back to title contention again. The Warriors had a closed-door meeting in the locker room Wednesday as news

of the trade was getting out; coach Steve Kerr met with the team during the period that the room is typically open to reporters before games. Golden State wound up falling to Utah 131-128.

"Our guys were in the locker room getting ready to play and all of a sudden we're saying goodbye," Kerr said. Butler's breakup with the Heat brewed for months. The primary issue was money; he was eligible for the two-year, \$113 million extension and the Heat never offered it, largely because he missed about 25% of the team's games in his Miami tenure. The relationship was broken beyond repair at the end. When Butler said he didn't expect to find on-court joy with the Heat again in early January, he was suspended for seven games as the last straw on a list of what the team called detrimental conduct. It kept getting worse: Butler was suspended three times in January alone, the second a two-game ban for missing a team flight, the last an indefinite one that followed him leaving shoot-around early after learning he wasn't going to start a Jan. 27 game against Orlando. □

Former NFL coach Ron Rivera plans to head back to college to work at alma mater Cal

By JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

Former NFL head coach Ron Rivera is looking to head back to college to work at his alma mater.

Rivera said Wednesday on social media that he was following the lead of Bill Belichick and will take a job in some capacity at California.

"Coach Belichick has made going back to school, cool," he wrote. "Stay tuned I am coming home."

Rivera and the school revealed no details about what role he would take at Cal. Coach Justin Wilcox is entering his ninth season in charge of the Golden Bears and has a 42-50 career record.

"Our alum, Ron Rivera is an icon in football for good reason," UC Berkeley Chancellor Rich Lyons said. "I'm thrilled to be in discussion with him about the details

of joining the Cal team to support and advance our football program. We will release more information as soon as possible."

Cal's rival, Stanford, recently hired former star quarterback Andrew Luck to be the general manager of the program.

Rivera was an All-American linebacker at Cal in 1983 before heading to the NFL as a second-round draft pick of the Chicago Bears in 1984.

Rivera was on a Super Bowl-winning team his second season and had a nine-year playing career.

Rivera began his coaching career in 1997 and was head coach for Carolina for nine seasons and Washington for four years. Rivera had a 102-103-2 record in the regular season, winning AP NFL Coach of the Year awards in 2013 and 2015 with the Panthers. □



Former Washington Commanders head coach Ron Rivera looks on before an NCAA college football game between the Army and Navy, in Landover, Md., Dec. 14, 2024.

Associated Press

Pro Picks: Eagles will beat the Chiefs in the Super Bowl, preventing Kansas City from a three-peat

By **ROB MAADDI**

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The

Kansas City Chiefs are undefeated this season when Taylor Swift is watching boyfriend Travis Kelce in person. Patrick Mahomes has never lost to Eagles defensive coordinator Vic Fangio.

All four Super Bowl rematches that have occurred within five years have been won by the winner of the first meeting.

The odds are stacked in Kansas City's favor but the Chiefs are only 1 1/2-point favorites against Philadelphia on Sunday, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

That's because the two-time defending champion Chiefs (17-2) haven't faced a team quite like the Eagles



Philadelphia Eagles running back Saquon Barkley (26) runs through drills during an NFL football practice Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, in New Orleans, ahead of Super Bowl 59 against the Kansas City Chiefs.

Associated Press

(17-3) this season.

Led by Saquon Barkley, Jalen Hurts and A.J. Brown, the Eagles have one of the league's most dynamic offenses. Under Fangio's guidance, they also have the NFL's No. 1 defense.

"They know how to play well together. I mean, that's what makes Vic, Fangio's defense so well, so great is that everybody has a part and they have to do their job in order for everybody to have success," said Mahomes, who is 8-0 against Fangio defenses. "And that's what they do.

And it'll be a great challenge. Gotta be patient. And when those opportunities come, you gotta go out there and execute on them because there are only going to be a few of them in the game."

No team has ever three-peated in the Super Bowl era. Only the Chiefs have even had that opportunity. None of the eight previous teams who won back-to-back Super Bowls made it back for a third, though the Green Bay Packers won an NFL championship in 1965 and captured the first two Super Bowls.

The Chiefs are 9-0 this season when Swift comes to their games. President Donald Trump will be in the Superdome, too. It'll be the first time a sitting president attends a Super Bowl.

"That's awesome. It's a great honor," Kelce said Wednesday.

"I think no matter who the president is, I know I'm excited because it's the biggest game of my life, and having the president there, it's the best country in the world. So, that'd be pretty cool."

Hurts, Barkley and the Eagles will be aiming to spoil Kansas City's party.

Hurts nearly led the Eagles to a victory against the Chiefs two years ago in Arizona, but Mahomes led a comeback and Harrison Butker kicked the game-winning field goal in the final minute.

"I've learned so much," Hurts said about his growth since that game. "It's the same as any other game and, you know, I think the moments are the moments but ultimately, every game has its lesson good, bad or indifferent. So, just being able to become wiser, grow and mature and take all these lessons in for the next season and the next games."

The Eagles didn't have Barkley when they faced the Chiefs two years ago. He joined them in free agency this season and is on the verge of history. Barkley has 2,447 yards rushing, 30 away from passing Terrell Davis's 26-year-old record for most in a season, including playoffs.

Barkley will turn 28 on game day. How does he plan to celebrate?

"Hopefully with green and white confetti falling down, and holding up a nice trophy," Barkley said.

Pro Picks predicted the Eagles to beat the Chiefs in the Super Bowl before the season so we're sticking with it.

EAGLES: 31-30

Last week: Straight up: 2-0.

Against spread: 0-2.

Playoffs: Straight up: 9-3.

Against spread: 6-5-1.

Overall: Straight up: 201-83.

Against spread: 150-129-5.

Best Bet: Straight up: 12-7.

Against spread: 10-8-1

Upset Special: Straight up:

10-9. Against spread: 10-9. ☐

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